

**IMPORTANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:**  
**Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Projects**  
**FY2009/2010 BEIF-PDAP Prioritization Process**

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region IX and the Border Environment Cooperation Commission (BECC), in coordination with the North American Development Bank (NADB) and the National Water Commission of Mexico (CONAGUA), are pleased to announce a new project prioritization cycle for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure projects subject to funding availability in fiscal years (FY) 2009 and 2010 for the Border Environment Infrastructure Fund (BEIF) and the Project Development Assistance Program (PDAP).

For the FY09/10 prioritization process, the criteria, methodology and related processes have been modified to enhance program effectiveness and better reflect U.S. – MX border region priorities. The *FY09/10 Prioritization Criteria for Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Projects* as well as the new Project Application and related instructional booklet will be available on the BECC Web site, [www.cocef.org](http://www.cocef.org) by September 1, 2008.

The EPA and BECC, with other agency stakeholders, are committed to assisting project sponsors with the preparation and submittal of project applications for the prioritization process. In an effort to provide direct guidance, workshops on the prioritization process will be conducted along the U.S.-Mexico border for project sponsors and other interested parties. The workshop dates and locations are:

<b>DATE/TIME</b>	<b>CITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>CONTACT</b>
<i>September 17 1:00 pm -4:00 pm</i>	<i>El Centro, CA</i>	<i>Imperial County Dept Social Services Building Room C 2895 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street, El Centro CA</i>	<i>Briselda Duarte (877) 277 1703</i>
<i>September 18 10:00 am -1:00 pm</i>	<i>Mexicali, BC</i>	<i>CESPM – Calzada Independencia y Río Sinaloa #1399 (frente Bomberos) Colonia Vallarta</i>	<i>Temis Alvarez (656) 688 4600</i>
<i>September 17 1:00 pm -4:00 pm</i>	<i>Nogales, AZ</i>	<i>Arizona Department of Water Resources 857 West Bell Road, Suite 3 Nogales, AZ, 85621</i>	<i>Joel Mora (877) 277 1703</i>
<i>September 18 9 am -12 pm</i>	<i>Nogales, SON</i>	<i>OOMAPAS – Periférico Centro de Capacitación Calle Hermosillo y Periférico Luis Donaldo Colosio, Colonia Granja</i>	<i>Joel Mora (656) 688 4600</i>

Please attend a workshop if you are interested in submitting a Project Application, assisting local project sponsors in this process or to learn more about financial support opportunities for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure. The workshops may also provide an opportunity to meet with other funding agencies for your area.

**All project sponsors that would like to have a project considered in the prioritization process must submit an application to the BECC no later than 5 pm Wednesday, October 15, 2008.** Applications submitted after said date will not be considered in the prioritization process.

We encourage you to advise potential project sponsors and/or other interested parties to attend the workshops, to visit BECC's Web site or to contact the BECC to learn more about the process. Please contact Armando Carrasco at [acarrasco@cocef.org](mailto:acarrasco@cocef.org) or by phone at 877-277-1703 or (011-52-656) 688-4600 with any questions.

With your cooperation and assistance, we look forward to continuing these important efforts to address health and environmental issues on the U.S.-Mexico border.

*Prioritization of drinking water and wastewater projects along the U.S.-Mexico border, defined as 100 kilometers (62 miles) north and south of the border, is necessary because water infrastructure needs for the Border region exceed the available infrastructure grant funds. The Prioritization Criteria and Methodology were established to ascertain which drinking water and wastewater projects will address the most severe public health and environmental conditions identified in communities along the border. To be considered eligible for consideration in the prioritization process, projects, both in the U.S. and in Mexico, must propose to address existing conditions that if improved will have a positive impact to the health and environment in the U.S.*